

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 FEA-01 PA-01 PRS-01

AF-06 /100 W

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P R 311137Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY 2151

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI UAE

AMEMBASSY DOHA QATAR

AMEMBASSY JIDDA SAUDI ARABIA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT OMAN

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 0622

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PFOR, BA

SUBJECT : REACTION TO REMARKS BY PRESIDENT ON USE OF
FORCE IN EVENT OF OIL EMBARGO

REF : STATE 121746

1. IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT WIRELESS FILE, WE DISTRIBUTED TO
AMIR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE TOP GOB OFFICIALS TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S
REMARKS TO FOUR FOREIGN JOURNALISTS ON OIL, MIDDLE EAST AND
"USE OF FORCE" ISSUE. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, GOB HAS BEEN
NOTABLY RESTRAINED IN ITS REACTION TO VARIOUS PUBLIC STATEMENTS
BY U.S. OFFICIALS WHICH HAVE BEEN INTERPRETED BY SOME MIDDLE
EAST GOVERNMENTS AS THREATS OF INTERVENTION. NEVERTHELESS,
GOB HAS BEEN NERVOUS ABOUT THIS ISSUE, PARTICULARLY ITS
EFFECT ON U.S. RELATIONS WITH BAHRAIN'S NEIGHBORS. MAY 29
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I HAD FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS PRESIDENT'S INTERVIEW

WITH FOREIGN MINISTER WHO HAD READ THE TEXT. HE EXPRESSED RELIEF AND SATISFACTION AT PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS. ALTHOUGH HE MUTTERED A BIT ABOUT GOB'S NEED TO HEED CLOSELY STATEMENTS BY ANY "SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIAL", HE "AGREED" THAT GOB COULD CONSIDER PRESIDENT'S REMARKS ON USE OF FORCE AS DEFINITIVE, AND HOPEFULLY THE FINAL, USG POLICY STATEMENT ON THIS ISSUE.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER ADDED THAT WHEN HE AND PRIME MINISTER WERE IN IRAN, THE SHAH, DRAWING ON HIS RECENT WASHINGTON DISCUSSIONS, HAD SOUGHT TO ASSURE BAHRAINIS THAT USG HAS NO INTENTION OF RESORTING TO FORCE TO DEAL WITH ECONOMIC ISSUES RELATED TO OIL.
TWINAM

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